

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: INTERSTATE POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY	DOCKET NO. WRU-03-33-150
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**ORDER GRANTING TEMPORARY WAIVER AND
REQUIRING QUARTERLY REPORTS**

(Issued July 14, 2003)

On June 23, 2003, Interstate Power and Light Company (IPL) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a request for an additional temporary waiver of certain sections of 199 IAC 20.18(5)"a." This rule, which is part of the new electric reliability rules effective on December 18, 2002, contains the record-keeping requirements for electric utilities with over 50,000 Iowa retail customers. No objections to the request were filed.

IPL was previously granted a waiver of this rule, effective until July 1, 2003. Interstate Power and Light Company, "Order Granting Temporary Waiver," Docket No. WRU-02-45-150 (1/6/03). In support of its request for an additional waiver until July 1, 2004, IPL states it does not currently have all the outage management systems (OMS) in place to fully comply with section 20.18(5)"a." IPL further states it has worked extensively with its software vendor to meet the original July 1, 2003, deadline, but that the lack of satisfactory progress caused IPL to stop work with the

vendor under the old contract to get a fixed bid contract with specific completion milestones. IPL signed a new contract with the vendor on May 28, 2003, but the vendor released the previous project manager and team, thereby delaying the project further. IPL offered to provide quarterly status reports on the OMS project upgrade beginning in October 2003.

Specifically, IPL is not able to fully comply with subsections 20.18(5)"a"(1)"4" and "a"(2)"7" because it is unable to provide service interruption information about individual distribution circuits when issues associated with the transmission system or substation cause outages. In addition, IPL's current system cannot sectionalize information about underground distribution circuits such that information required by subsections 20.18(5)"a"(2)"2" and "a"(2)"3" on outage duration and restoration time is unavailable. Finally, IPL's system cannot track all the outage cause codes the subsection requires, such as "earthquake" and "clear day," which means IPL cannot comply with subsections 20.18(5)"a"(4)"1," 20.18(5)"a"(4)"2," and 20.18(5)"a"(4)"3."

In its January 6, 2003, "Order Granting Temporary Waiver," the Board said at page 2 that it did not intend to grant a further extension. However, based on the waiver request, it appears that IPL has corrected some of the problems with its software vendor. The Board remains concerned, though, that full compliance with the Board's reliability rules is dependent on a software vendor's upgrade, particularly when it does not appear that significant progress was made during several recent months. Nevertheless, because full compliance is not possible with IPL's current

system without time consuming and costly manual preparation of the data, the Board will grant the waiver until July 1, 2004. The Board will require quarterly progress reports beginning October 1, 2003, and expects that IPL will manage the project so that the OMS upgrades will be completed no later than June 2004, consistent with the representations made in the waiver request.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The request for an extension of temporary waiver filed by Interstate Power and Light Company on June 23, 2003, is granted.
2. Interstate Power and Light Company shall file quarterly progress reports beginning October 1, 2003, as described in this order.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Diane Munns

/s/ Mark O. Lambert

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary

/s/ Elliott Smith

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 14th day of July, 2003.